United States District Court Southern District of Texas

ENTERED

November 30, 2015 David J. Bradley, Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA \$

VS. \$

CRIMINAL ACTION NO. 2:15-CR-641

\$

ANTONIO ALDACO \$

ORDER DENYING MOTION TO SUPPRESS EVIDENCE

Before the Court is Defendant Antonio Aldaco's (Aldaco) Motion to Suppress Evidence. D.E. 33. Aldaco is charged by indictment with possession of marihuana. D.E. 6. The marihuana was discovered, and a subsequent confession obtained, as a result of an immigration inspection of passengers on a commercial bus at a border patrol checkpoint in Falfurrias, Texas. D.E. 1. Aldaco argues that he was not on the commercial bus identified in the complaint, Tornado Bus #8642; rather, he was on an Americano bus. For the following reasons, Aldaco's motion is **DENIED.**

FACTS

On July 5, 2015, Aldaco and his companion, Sarah Martin (Martin), were traveling on a commercial bus that stopped at the Falfurrias, Texas border patrol checkpoint for a routine immigration inspection. During the inspection, United States Border Patrol Agent Brandon Parsons (Parsons) noted that Martin appeared very nervous so he asked if he could look in their suitcase. Aldaco consented and Parsons found three cellophanewrapped bundles of marihuana in the suitcase. Aldaco and Martin admitted in interviews with Parsons and Task Force Officer Todd Beach (Beach) that they obtained the

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marihuana in Weslaco, Texas, and they were being paid to transport the marihuana to

Dallas.

DISCUSSION

Aldaco's motion to suppress rests entirely on his assertion that he was not on the

bus identified in the criminal complaint, Tornado Bus #8642. At the suppression hearing,

the Government presented testimony from Parsons and Beach, both of whom the Court

found to be credible witnesses. Both witnesses testified to the accuracy of the events as

stated in the criminal complaint. Further, they testified that they know the difference

between a Tornado bus and an Americano bus, and they have no reason to believe that

Aldaco was not on the Tornado bus identified in the complaint.

Aldaco failed to produce any support for his claim that he was not on the Tornado

bus. He acknowledged that the commercial bus he was on was stopped at the Falfurrias

immigration checkpoint and that Parsons discovered the marihuana in his suitcase.

The Court finds no basis to support the motion to suppress. Even if Aldaco was

on an Americano bus, such error in the complaint would be a clerical error with no

bearing on the validity of the complaint.

CONCLUSION

Aldaco's Motion to Suppress Evidence (D.E. 33) is DENIED.

ORDERED this 30th day of November, 2015.

NELVA GONZALES RAMOS

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE